

A NEW
MODEL
HUMBLY
PROPOSED.

Seriously to be considered of,
CONCERNING A
NEW REPRESENTATIVE.



LONDON
Printed by Francis Leach,
1653.

LIBRARY

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WILLIAM W. W. W.



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A NEW
M O D E L L
 HUMBL Y
 P R O P O S E D,

Seriously to be considered of, concerning

A N E W R E P R E S E N T A T I V E.

IT is apparently evident, that there are many great heart-burnings, which have been for a long time kindled in the breasts of many, the flames whereof, through the manifold sad divisions of this our nation, have burst forth in divers parts of this Land, to the dishonour of God, the scandal of Religion, the reproach of our Nation, the insultation of our Enemies, the hazzard of our Commonwealth, the wasting of much Christian blood, the exhausting of our Treasure, and the decay of our Trading, which is the very life of the land wherein we live.

However many other things may be speciously pretended,
 A 2 and

and haply are great furtherances thereof, yet one main ground whereby these manifold divisions are fomented, new tumults daily raised, and all parties not reconciled, is the long continuance of those faithfull men in their places, whom the Lord hath made happy instruments, both of getting and enjoying all our peace, and who by their indefatigable pains have merited everlasting honour from this Nation.

This hath caused many of the Nobility and Gentry, not only secretly to repine at, but also openly oftimes to oppose the present government, because not only themselves, but their families also, (as they conjecture) are debarred of that honour, which haply some of their Ancestors have enjoyed, The yeomanry also, & others of the commonalty are unsatisfied because their privileges are not more frequently put in practise by new Elections: and the Souldier is not well satisfied, because by new insurrections his dangers are still increased, this Modell seemeth to be no way eyed, and the faithfull friends of themselves and of our Common-wealth daily have decreased.

Where notwithstanding, if our Parliament should be annually dissolved, there would be many dangerous tumults in new elections of the whole Nations; There would be inexperienced Parliaments of all new elected members, and thereby an overthrowing the not-yet-setled foundation of our new-moulded State, There would be a crossing of all designs that have hitherto been caried on, (as that Parliament in Scotland, wherein D. *Hambleton* was made General against *England*, to the breach of the Union of both Nations, doth yeeld us a sad example;) There would be likewise many dangerous Elections, which could not be sifted out, much lesse remedied.

There would be also not only fearfull jealousies, but also inevitable danger of secret plotings at home, and open invasions from abroad, which would heighten our divisions, unsettle our peace, and destroy our trading.

That therefore these and the like inconveniencies may be prevented, that the Lord may be more honored, that the stream of bloud may be timely stopped, that love may be renewed, that there

there be no ground for secret plotings against the Commonwealth, Parliament, and Army; that the Parliament, State, and Army may be strengthened with the addition of new faithful friends, the Land furnished with plenty of experienced Statesmen to make Laws, the Countrey supplied with good Iustices to see those Laws which themselves have made to be executed, that a settled peace may be continued, that thereby trading in all places may be quickened, that all parties which are nor of turbulent dispositions may be satisfied, and that all heart-burning jealousies may be worn out, these following Propositions are humbly proposed seriously to be considered of.

1. **V** Hereas *England* and *Wales* are divided into fifty and two shires, or Counties. that these may be reduced to eight and forty, by joyning two together of eight of the least Counties in *Wales*, which according to the twelve moneths in the year, four of them might annually have a moneth appointed to elect new Members, either according to the number of their old Elections, or of some new modell. Thus there would be no occasion given for a generall tumult throughout the land, which otherwise we might justly fear would arise, either at the dissolution of the old, or the election of the new Parliamentary Members; the whole Commonwealth would be in one place or other, in their continued exercise of their privileges; these new-bred jealousies would by degrees be taken away, the House would be always full of able members, no such ground for malicious men to plot, as otherwise there would be; the fitness of either Member would be sifted afore he is admitted, and thus there would be no fear of a new Parliament to cross the old Parliament proceedings.
2. That the First Tuesday of every moneth be the day appointed for the severall Elections annually, and the Sheriff to attend on those Elections, to prevent any disorder that might break out. Thus in a short time the Country would
be

be filled with good Justices, the House would be ever full of faithfull Members to act, and those new-chosen Members would in a short time be experienced in Parliament affairs.

3. That 14 days after the day of Election, return be made of the new elected Members, where if there be any controversie of any illegall Election, or any man be elected that hath any way served the Enemy in our late warres, or if it be against any other act of Parliament made against such an Election, that then such an Election may be easily debated and heard, and if by Parliamentary vote it be found blameworthy, that the first Tuesday in the next moneth for that course only, there may be a new Election; where if a second ill-affected perion be chosen, that then they may choose no more that year, lest that the House be otherwise troubled with ill Members, or with continuall debates about Elections.
4. That no man which hath shewed himself an enemy to the State in these late warres be chosen for the first seven years, unless by some honourable field-service he hath made satisfaction for his former misdemeanours, but that they may not be quite cast off, if he shew no unfaithfulness to the present government in that seven years space, he may be Elected.
5. That when any new Members be elected for any place, and received into the House, the Members which have served formerly for that County or place may then be dismissed the House with honour, unless he be elected a second time, provided that none be elected above twice together, for the same County or Burgesship. Thus envy and private grudgings in the County will be abated, new friends will be annually added to the Parliament, all deserving men may be honoured by degrees in their County, and the Laws which by them.

(5)

themselves were enacted in the House, may by themselves be put in execution in the Country.

6. All Privileged Places and Corporations, especially Sea-Towns, which are usually places of consequence to the State, which formerly have had Elections, that they may have no just ground of discontent, and that they may have some especial interest in some Member, whereby in emergent occasions they may be redressed, and yet the House not overburdened with Members, that they may have some privilege correspondent to their former, where two of the smaller Townes may be joyned together to elect annually a fit Burges, or else to elect every other turn by course,
 - 7 That the first Elections be only for the supplying of those places that are wanting.
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A Scheme or Figure, in which either every year, second, third, or fourth, Elections may be made.

- 1. If there be an annuall choice, then these 4. together every moneth.
- 2. If there be every other year a choice then joyn the two first together, and the two last together.
- 3. If there be every third year a choice, then joyn the two first and the two last together, only let there be no Election in 4 moneths in Winter.
- 4. If there be every fourth year, then the Counties as they lie in order, according to the figure, those with the figure of one first Election, and then the second,

The Countie of ~~Wiltshire~~, may be added, but because of the uniting of them, lest any offence may be given, I have not set them down.

FINIS.

- 1. Kent.
- 2. Suffolk.
- 3. Lincoln.
- 4. Cheshire.
- 1. Suffex.
- 2. Cambridge.
- 3. York.
- 4. Shropshire.
- 1. Hampshire.
- 2. Bedford.
- 3. Durham.
- 4. Herefordshire.
- 1. Dorsetshire.
- 2. Hartford.
- 3. Northumberland.
- 4.
- 1. Devonshire.
- 2. Buckingham.
- 3. Cumberland.
- 4.
- 1. Cornwall.
- 2. Devon.
- 3. Westmoreland.
- 1. Somerset.
- 2. Gloucester.
- 3. Lancashire.
- 4.
- 1. Wiltshire.
- 2. Worcester.
- 3. Stafford.
- 4.
- 1. Berkshire.
- 2. Warwick.
- 3. Derbyshire.
- 4.
- 1. Surrey.
- 2. Northampton.
- 3. Nottingham.
- 4.
- 1. Middlesex.
- 2. Huntingdon.
- 3. Leicester.
- 4.
- 1. Essex.
- 2. Northfolk.
- 3. Rutland.

